

Amendment – Ser. No. 09/955,273  
 September 28, 2006  
 Page 10

## REMARKS

### Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 2, 3, 20, 21 and 28 have been amended to overcome the § 112, second paragraph rejections. It is respectfully submitted that these claims are now fully definite as required by § 112.

### Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102 / § 103

Claims 4, 5, 7-21, 25, 26 and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by either Detsch et al., US patent No. 5,526,841 or 6,019,117.

Claims 4, 5, 7-22, 24-26 and 28 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Castellini EP 734,692 A2.

Claims 2 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over any of Detsch et al., '117 or '841 or Castellini as applied to claim 28, further in view of Rainey U.S. Patent No. 6,253,964 B1.

### Amended Claims

None of the documents of record, taken alone or in combination, disclose or fairly suggest the invention defined in amended independent claim 28, with water supplied from the water main and/or disinfecting liquid supplied from the first interchangeable tank and/or a third liquid (e.g., purified or medicated water or saline) from a second interchangeable tank. Detsch discloses that the water tank 22 can be filled with medicated water, but Detsch does not fairly suggest the invention of claim 28 where three different liquids are supplied as needed according to the process being performed with the dental unit. Neither the Castellini nor the Rainey document can overcome this deficiency of the Detsch documents. As such, amended claim 28 and the dependent claims are respectfully submitted to be in condition for allowance.

Amendment – Ser. No. 09/955,273  
 September 28, 2006  
 Page 11

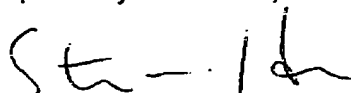
### Dependent Claims

With specific reference to dependent claims 8-16, it is respectfully submitted that these claims define over the cited prior art additionally due to the limitations recited therein with respect to the details of the first and second interchangeable tanks and the particular closures and fluid connections related thereto. As such, claims 8-16 are submitted to be patentable with amended claim 28 and also based upon the addition limitations recited therein.

### Conclusion

All matters having been addressed above and in view of the pending claims and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests the entry of this amendment, the Examiner's reconsideration of the application, and the allowance of the pending claims. The undersigned practitioner is available to assist the Examiner in any way to facilitate and expedite the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Steven M. Haas (Reg. No. 37,841)  
 Fay, Sharpe, Fagan, Minnich & McKee, LLP  
 1100 Superior Avenue, Seventh Floor  
 Cleveland, Ohio 44114-2518  
 (216)861-5582